

HOUSE RESOLUTION 137
By Windle

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Colonel Matt D.
McKnight for exemplary military service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals willing to fight and sometimes give their lives for our freedom, and Tennessee is especially proud to have so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, one such person is Colonel Matt Doran McKnight, III, Commander of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Tennessee Army National Guard, who during his exemplary 37 year military career has distinguished himself as one of Tennessee's most respected military men; and

WHEREAS, born in Rockwood, Colonel McKnight graduated from Murfreesboro Central High School in 1960 and later graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, commissioned in 1967 after his completion of the Tennessee Military Academy's Officer Candidate School, Colonel McKnight's extensive military education also includes his participation in the I Corps Academy's Artillery Survey Course, the 7th ID NCO Academy, USAAS Officer Basic, the U.S. Army's Jungle Warfare and Aviation schools, the USAAS's Officer Advance Course, the Command and General Staff College, the Commanders Development Course, the M1 Abrams Tank Commanders Course, the Army Training

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Management System Course, the Tactical Commander's Development Course and the Brigade Tactical Commander's Development Course; and

WHEREAS, Colonel McKnight served with valor as a platoon leader and operations officer in Vietnam from 1966-70; his other major assignments include stints at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and military bases in Germany prior to returning to his beloved Tennessee in 1977, where in 1994 he became Commander of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment; and

WHEREAS, for his alacritous military service, Colonel McKnight has deservedly received the Bronze Star Medal with device (3rd award), the Purple Heart Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (5th award), the Army Commendation Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Master Army Aviator, Combat Infantry and Expert Infantry badges, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, the Presidential Unit Citation and the Tennessee Governors Meritorious Unit Commendation among others, too numerous to mention; and

WHEREAS, aside from his prodigious military service, Colonel McKnight has also contributed of his time and remarkable talents to the National Guard Association of the United States and Tennessee, the Black Horse Association, of which he has served as National Secretary, the U.S. Army Armor Association, the Honorable Order of Saint George, the Academy of American Modlers and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency; and

WHEREAS, his many noteworthy honors and accolades aside, Colonel McKnight is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his wife, Georgia, and children, Matt D. McKnight, IV, Timothy J. McKnight, Mary K. McKnight and Georgeann McKnight; and

WHEREAS, it is important that this legislative body should honor those outstanding Tennesseans who are deserving of recognition for gallant service to their country as a member of the armed forces; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That the members of

this body should hereby pause to recognize Colonel Matt Doran McKnight, III for his meritorious military service and salute his exemplary patriotism and courage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Colonel McKnight with this final clause omitted from such copy.